

LOSS OF THE MAINE.

STORIES OF CONSUL GENERAL LEE AND CAPTAIN SIGSBEE.

WAS GEN. WEYLER GUILTY?

LEE EVIDENTLY BELIEVES HE KNEW OF SUNKEN MINES.

A Very Suspicious Telegram—Spanish Officers Rejoiced Over Destruction of Maine, but Blanco West—Spanish Gave No Protection.

Washington, April 14.—The testimony taken before the senate committee on foreign relations in connection with the investigation into the relations between the United States and Cuba was made public today. It constitutes a book of about 600 pages and includes not only the testimony taken before the committee, but also much that was taken before, and running back for a year or more.

The statement which contains the greatest current interest is that made by Consul General Lee Tuesday. In this statement General Lee said that he was informed on very good authority that the Spaniards had placed two rows of torpedoes just at the mouth of Havana harbor, by Moro castle, within the last two months, or subsequent to the Maine disaster, and that the switchboard is in a room in the castle. He said, however, that he had no information of the placing of any torpedoes before the Maine was destroyed, and none in regard to the purchase abroad by the Spanish authorities.

"Have you any reason to suppose that the harbor was mined at all before the blowing up of the Maine?" asked Senator Frye.

"No, sir; I had no reason to suspect anything of that sort up to that time."

General Weyler's Letter.

He then said that General Weyler's letter to Santos Guzman had led him to believe that mines might have been placed there previous to the Maine incident, and he said that this supposition was strengthened by a telegram from General Weyler, of which he had cognizance. Upon the whole, he thought the Weyler letter (the Laine copy) was a correct one of the genuine letter.

The telegram to which he referred was addressed to Eva Canel, a noted Spanish woman, and an admirer of Weyler, and to Senator Guzman. It read as follows:

"Grave circumstances cause me to ask you to destroy the last letter of February 12."

General Lee said that this telegram had never before been published and that he found in it strong confirmatory evidence of the genuineness of the Weyler letter.

With reference to the responsibility for the destruction of the Maine, General Lee said: "I am satisfied the explosion was from the outside. I cabled the state department a few days after the board assembled that I was almost certain the explosion was from the exterior."

"I have always had an idea about the Maine that, of course, it was not blown up by any private individual or by any private citizen, but it was blown up by some of the officers who had charge of the mines and electrical wires and torpedoes in the arsenal there who thoroughly understood their business, for it was done remarkably well."

General Blanco Cried.

"I do not think General Blanco, the present captain general of the island of Cuba, had anything to do with it. I do not think he had any knowledge of it. I saw him just shortly after the occurrence. I was sitting in my room at the hotel and from the balcony of the hotel heard the explosion and saw a great column of fire go up in the air."

"A few moments after ascertaining that it was the Maine I went right down to the palace and I asked General Blanco, 'He came in directly by himself. He had just heard it and was crying; tears were coming out of his eyes. He seemed to regret it as much as I regret it. He said, 'I saw him at the hotel and from the balcony of the hotel heard the explosion and saw a great column of fire go up in the air.'"

General Lee said that he had seen a copy of a telegram from Admiral Manterola, dated Havana, prior to the explosion of the Maine, to the Spanish commission in London, asking the commission to "hurry up the electrical cables." The cable referred to wire for submarine mines or torpedoes. "I do not know," he continued. "I tried to ascertain if any of the wire or electrical cables had arrived there, but they came on Spanish ships and I could not find out."

General Lee said that this testimony in regard to Manterola and also with reference to the Weyler telegram had been furnished to the court of inquiry, which investigated the Maine disaster, but had not been sent to congress nor published because of a request made by him to the state department. "I was afraid the Spanish papers there would publish it and they would probably kill the man who gave it to me," he said.

Lights Did Not Go Out.

Continuing his testimony General Lee said that ten minutes after the explosion he was at the palace talking to General Blanco and that he made him give him a letter for a boat to take him to the harbor. Senator Morgan asked if, when he got to the water's edge, he saw any lights burning.

"I did not notice that," said General Lee, "but I have made inquiries since, and have ascertained that no electric lights went out. I sent for electric light men and gas men. Some gas jets went out in one or two places, caused by the shock or something, but I could not ascertain from these men that a single electric light went out. One of the electric light men whom I called up is a friend of mine. He sent for the man who has direct charge of the lights, and he came to my office. This man said he had not heard of any such thing. I said: 'I want to know with certainty.' The man then made an explanation of about an hour or two and returned, saying that with the exception of one electric light near the harbor and one at another place, not very far distant, where he thought perhaps the lights might have gone out by the shock, no other electric lights went out."

General Lee also said that he had not felt the shock of the explosion at the hotel. "Have you heard since the explosion of the Maine any expression by Spanish officers in relation to it, indicating their pleasure at the fact?" asked Senator Frye.

Spanish Officers Rejoiced. "I heard two or three days afterwards from various persons who came in that there was a good deal of rejoicing among some of the officers. All reports I got said they were drinking champagne, quite a thing to do in honor of the event, and in effect the relations of the city officers were making merry. I attributed it to the fact that they considered almost an enemy's battleship had been blown up, and it was that much in their favor," he said that he had not heard

any threats or allusions to the destruction of the Maine previous to the explosion. Senator Lodge asked if he had heard of an attempt upon the Montgomery.

"I heard," responded General Lee, "that there was something of that sort one evening, but I believe, upon investigation, it was found that it did not amount to anything."

The following colloquy between Senator Foraker and General Lee brought out some further questions of the general in regard to the destruction of the Maine.

Senator Foraker: "You think that no novice could have destroyed the Maine?"

Consul General Lee: "Oh, no, sir; the whole thing was a very simple matter, and I think that any man who was thoroughly acquainted with explosives of all sorts and who knew all about it, it was very well done."

Only an Expert Could Do It.

Senator Foraker: "A man who had expert knowledge, necessarily?"

Consul General Lee: "Yes, sir."

Senator Clark: "And who must have had knowledge of the location of the torpedoes?"

Consul General Lee: "Yes, I never have been certain that the submarine explosive was placed there prior to the entrance of the Maine into the harbor. It might have been done afterward. The Maine was anchored to a buoy by some little chain. A vessel swinging around that way sometimes gets at various places all around the circle. When she would swing off that way, with the bow next to the buoy, and then she would be playing about the harbor all the time, anybody could go pretty well in front of her on a dark night and drop one of these submarine mines of 500 pounds. They have fuses, as it were, and as the boat goes around it would touch the finger, which makes contact and explodes the mine."

"That might have been done after the Maine got in there and not been discovered. One or two men rowing quietly in a boat could drop it off the stern of the boat at night, though Sigbee had his patrol out."

"A boat would not have been noticed, because boats go there always to a late hour of the night. The harbor is full of these little boats. Mine fuses about 500 pounds and I suppose it would take two or three men—one man to row and probably three or four to handle the mine."

Spanish Not Especially Hostile.

In reply to a question from Senator Gray, General Lee said that the Spanish population is not especially hostile toward the United States.

"The Spanish portion are principally the merchants, commission merchants and shopkeepers, and all this agitation is affecting very much their business, and, while they give no expression to hostility, are really annexationists, because they think it is the only way out of the trouble, and they would much prefer annexation to the United States to a Cuban republic. They are generally all for Cuba. The condition of the reconcentrados out in the country is just as bad as in General Weyler's day. It has been relieved a good deal by supplies from the United States, but it has ceased now."

General Blanco published a proclamation rescinding General Weyler's bando, as they call it there, but it has no practical effect, for, in the first place, these people have no place to which to go; the houses have been burned down, and they have the bare land there, and it takes them two months before they can raise the first crop. In the next place, they are afraid to go out from the lines of the towns, because they are called upon to kill them, as they are called upon to kill them. So they stick right in at the edges of towns just like they did, with nothing to eat except what they can get from charity. The Spanish have nothing to give."

Armistice Amounts to Nothing.

Senator Lodge asked: "What does this armistice amount to in the last few days amount to?" to which General Lee responded: "Nothing; practically nothing—the armistice amounts to nothing."

In response to an inquiry from Senator Frye as to his reasons for saying that the insurgents were paying no attention to the armistice, General Lee said:

"Because every attempt so far to make terms or to make peace or to buy the insurgents or their leaders has met with signal failure, and whatever may be said about old General Gomez, he is in my humble opinion, fighting that war in the only way it can be done—scattering his troops out to starve, because to concentrate would be to starve, having no commissary train and no way to get supplies. They come in some times for the purpose of making some little raid where he thinks it will do something, but he has given orders, so I have always been informed, not to fight, not to become engaged, not to lose their cartridges, and sometimes when he gets into a fight each man is ordered not to fire more than two cartridges."

"When General Weyler was there he was out after him, scattering them, and they would move up a column and fire, and sometimes flank the column, and the Spanish soldiers would deploy and throw out skirmishers, and the Cubans, like Indians, would scatter. They came in some times for the purpose of making some little raid where he thinks it will do something, but he has given orders, so I have always been informed, not to fight, not to become engaged, not to lose their cartridges, and sometimes when he gets into a fight each man is ordered not to fire more than two cartridges."

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pled that the condition of the Spanish soldiers is very bad. They are badly clothed and are badly fed; not well organized; not well drilled. Senator Frye: "If Spain has really appointed 500,000 men, the maintenance of the reconcentrados, as it is stated, do you believe that that will be given to those people and that their own soldiers will be left to starve?"

Consul General Lee: "Oh, no." "What will become of them?" "They will divide it up here and there—a piece taken off here and a piece taken off there, do not know. They are not doing anything of the kind," was Lee's reply. He said there were American citizens left on the island for whom there is no provision since he had left. He thought there would be no provision for them, but he thought they were suffering and starving. He said he thought Miss Clara Barton would have remained to have taken charge of the distribution of supplies—"but very much to my surprise she turned around and came out the same day we did, bringing every Red Cross."

Spain Can't Conquer.

"What in your judgment is the possibility of Spain conquering the insurgents and restoring peace to the island?" Senator Frye asked.

"I do not think there is the slightest possibility of their doing it at all in any way," he replied. It is the same condition of things, the same condition of things. I asked him to go down there last June a year ago. I told him there was no chance in my opinion of Spain conquering the insurgents, nor was there any chance of the insurgents conquering the Spanish soldiers. He said he thought the government would not be able to do it.

In response to an inquiry from Senator Lodge for his opinion of the insurgents, General Lee said: "I have never thought that the insurgents had anything except the skeleton form of a government. I asked them one day why they did not have some permanent capital, and I think they gave a very good reason. They said it would require a large force to protect it and defend it, and they could not afford to raise up their men there—the capital and government officers had to move where they could be the safest."

General Lee said that he had seen a copy of the official connected with the civil government. The armed force probably 31,000. The number has been up probably as high as 35,000 or 37,000. The Spanish force was possibly 35,000 or 36,000.

Safe to Occupy Cuba Now.

General Lee said that an American army of occupation would be safe to occupy Cuba with safety now. The climate nor anything else need prevent them from entering Cuba.

Lee said that when he left Havana the Spanish troops had not been paid for about two months, nor had their men been paid for about four months.

Senator Daniel asked: "Do you think General Blanco was acting in courtesy to you on leaving the island?"

General Lee: "I went with the British consul general and Dr. Congosto, the secretary to the general. I told Dr. Congosto that I was going to the United States, and I called to go to my final respect and give him an expression of my respect. He asked me to sit down and said he would go and let him know. He went off and stayed about an hour and a half, and then he came back and said the general said please excuse him; he was not well and was lying in bed. He said he was very sorry to hear of his death and turned around and left."

Senator Daniel: "Were there any expressions of ill will toward you as you left?"

Consul General Lee: "When we were coming out on the steamer Saturday evening there was some hooting, catcalls and whistling, and some Spanish 'Meen' and 'Meen' and 'Meen' away," and so on. I think that was confined to the lower order of men, however."

Captain Sigbee's Testimony.

Captain Sigbee, in command of the Maine at the time of the disaster on March 31, 1898, gave his opinion that the Maine was destroyed by a mine, either temporary or permanent. He thought it had been a very large mine, but in his opinion, no larger than could be planted under the water. He said he had seen the mine and under direct vision with the means available in Havana for that purpose. He thought it was a very large mine, and that it could be planted under the water. He said he had seen the mine and under direct vision with the means available in Havana for that purpose.

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Cruz has been in operation day and night for the past three weeks. The mill has been turning out 250,000 pounds every forty-eight hours.

FROM THE BLUE AND GRAY.

Colonel William Stewart Anxious to Raise a Regiment Composed of Veterans.

Colonel William Stewart, of 316 West Fourteenth street, yesterday morning received a long letter from President McKinley in response to one from him last week. Colonel Stewart is anxious to raise a regiment of volunteers to do service for the government and Cuba and sent word to the president that if he were given permission he was able to respond in ten days with a full regiment of trained and veteran soldiers composed almost equally of the blue and the gray and anxious to get to the front for the second time.

Replying to the patriotic communication and the encouraging offer, the president expressed his thanks for the patriotic feeling displayed and expressed the deep gratification that the blue and gray stood to-day on common grounds, each ready to defend the flag and co-operate with the existing authorities of the government for the protection of national honor. If necessary for their services arose he would gladly call on them for service.

"I went through the last war in the Army of the Cumberland," said Colonel Stewart to a reporter for the Journal, and think I know something of what war is. I was in the regiment with which I was connected, the Twenty-second Ohio, had many hot engagements and the record of the Army of the Cumberland was full of fighting. I feel full of confidence and with my veterans after I am authorized I can muster in an entire regiment of the blue and the gray and offer to the government a regiment of veterans anxious to do one more service for the country and able to do it well."

RECRUITS ARE IN DEMAND.

New Company of the Third Regiment, N. G. M., Will Be Organized.

The monthly school for officers of the Third regiment met last night at the armory for instruction under Major S. E. Kellogg. The school was held in the regular weekly drill last night, spent the greater portion of the evening in bayonet practice. Company C, which was also out for drill, went out doors for its evening's work, and for over an hour indulged in various military maneuvers on Fifteenth street.

Ex-Captain J. H. Miller, of Company H, will hold a meeting of all the men who want to join the new company which he is recruiting for the Third regiment, at 813 Walnut street to-morrow night. He already has over thirty applications of men who wish to serve in the militia for the next three years and who hope before the expiration of that time to get some actual war experience.

All members of the Sixth ward, who want to join the Third regiment are invited to meet to-night at the store of Elmer Phipps, at Independence avenue and Locust street, or at E. N. Bowman's place of business at 313 Locust street. Mr. Bowman is an ex-naval cadet and with the assistance of Mr. Phipps is recruiting all the men he can get in the Sixth ward for a new company.

THIS MAN READY FOR WAR.

Winds Up His Business Affairs and Goes East Expecting to Be Called Out.

W. A. Shackman, a traveling salesman from New York, who is at the Coates House, is a member of the naval reserve of that state. He received yesterday from the commanding officer of the organization a letter asking him if he was in readiness to respond to a call if the organization was ordered out. The letter intimated that a call was liable to be made any day and the officer wanted to know about what force he would have when it was made. Mr. Shackman at once wired the officer that he would leave this evening for New York and be in readiness to do anything the reserves were ordered to do. He had some business at Omaha and went there last evening to dispose of it, and this evening will leave for New York. He expects the call for the reserves to be made by the time he gets home.

WAR NEWS SENDS WHEAT UP.

May Option Touched a New High Mark, \$1.11 1/2, in Chicago Yesterday.

Chicago, April 14.—A new high mark was made for May wheat to-day, that delivery selling up to and closing at \$1.11 1/2, an advance of 3/4 cents over yesterday. There was an enormous trade in all deliveries, war news and heavy export sales by Letter being the influences. July at one time showed a 1/2 cent advance, but it was selling just the price a cent lower than yesterday's final price. It closed unchanged at 87 1/2c.

TWO TRAINLOADS OF TROOPS.

Infantry From Fort Apache Will Be Here Saturday Night or Sunday Morning.

Two special trains of United States troops from Fort Apache will arrive in Kansas City over the Santa Fe Saturday night or Sunday morning. The troops are being sent to Jefferson barracks, St. Louis. The trains, consisting of thirteen tourist and two standard sleepers, carrying thirteen officers and 282 men, left Prescott, A. T.

CONSULTING A WOMAN.

Mrs. Pinkham's Advice Inspires Confidence and Hope.

Examination by a male physician is a trial to a delicately organized woman. She puts it off as long as she dare, and is only driven to it by fear of cancer, polypus, or some dreadful ailment. Most frequently such a woman leaves a physician's office where she has undergone a critical examination with an impression, more or less, of discouragement.

This condition of the mind destroys the effect of a doctor's advice; and she grows than better. In consulting Mrs. Pinkham's story is told to a woman and is wholly confidential. Mrs. Pinkham's address is Lynn, Mass. She offers sick women her advice without charge.

Her intimate knowledge of women's troubles makes her a letter of advice a wellspring of hope, and her delicate experience and skill point the way to health.

I suffered with ovarian trouble for seven years, and no doctor knew what was the matter with me. I had spells which would last for two days or more. I thought I would try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. I have taken seven bottles of it, and am entirely cured."—MRS. JOSE FOREMAN, 26 N. Woodberry Ave., Baltimore, Md.

The above letter from Mrs. Foreman is only one of thousands.

ON TO KLONDYKE FOR A KLONDYKE INVESTMENT!

INVESTIGATE

The Kansas City Yukon Mining, Milling and Dredging Company

(INCORPORATED.)

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL, \$100,000. FULLY PAID AND NON-ASSESSABLE.

SHARES, \$1.00 EACH.

General Office, American Bank Bldg., 732 Delaware St., Kansas City, Mo.

Officers and Directors: H. S. HADLEY, President. G. J. FERGUSON, First Vice President. E. E. STUTZ, Second Vice President. J. M. CHASE, Cashier. JAMES H. KNAPP, General Manager. JAMES H. KNAPP, General Contractor. R. D. BROWN, Attorney.

FIRST, To own and operate a River Steamer to run on the Alaska river and its tributaries, from St. Michael's, Alaska, to Dawson City, N. W. Territory, for the purpose of carrying passengers and freight.

SECOND, To build and operate Saw Mills and the manufacture of Boats, Sluice Boxes, Cradles and Rockers, etc.

THIRD, To build and operate Blacksmith Shops for the repair of Mining Machines and equipment of boats that may be required in the territory.

FOURTH, To furnish a physician and surgeon, medicines, etc.

FIFTH, To sell Kansas City Exchange to miners in exchange for Gold Dust.

SIXTH, To own and operate a W. T. Urie Dredge with a capacity of 2,000 cubic yards every 24 hours.

SEVENTH, To mine for gold in Alaska and N. W. Territory, and carry on any other business offering a good profit.

The company sent its manager, Mr. Knapp, to San Francisco, Portland, Tacoma and Seattle, to gather all possible information and value to the company, viz: The best field of operation, the price to be received for carrying passengers and freight, price of lumber, blacksmithing, etc.

In order to secure safe and sure passage to St. Michael's for the party and supplies, Mr. Knapp found it necessary to buy the magnificent new two-masted schooner, Maid of Orleans, one of the fastest, best and safest boats out of San Francisco. The Maid of Orleans will carry 100 passengers and 350 tons of freight. The company therefore accommodates 75 passengers and carry 200 tons of freight in addition to their own party and freight, and are now ready to contract with parties or individuals for passage and freight, at reasonable prices. Accommodations are suitable for ladies. At the present prices of transportation and freight from the coast to St. Michael's, and the great demand for same, the prospects are bright. The Maid of Orleans will carry freight at St. Michael's entirely free of cost to us, and make a handsome profit, from \$3,000 to \$6,000, by selling fares and transporting freight on our schooner, the Maid of Orleans.

A contract was also placed in Portland for the construction of a fine and beautiful river steamer, "The Kansas City," of the dimensions 20x50, with first class accommodations for 100 passengers and 75 tons of freight. The boat is equipped with electric lights, hot and cold water, bath, steam heat and, in fact